

Message Text

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ACTION MC-02

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SUBJ: LAWS GOVERNING FIREARM IMPORTATION

REF: STATE 177789

1. UNDER ECUADOREAN NATIONAL LAW, AS ADMINISTERED BY THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE, FOREIGN EXPORTERS DO NOT NEED TO OBTAIN A LICENSE TO SHIP FIREARMS INTO ECUADOR. THE BURDEN OF COMPLYING WITH LOCAL LAW RESTS SQUARELY UPON THE IMPORTING FIRM IN ECUADOR. ALTHOUGH THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE DOES NOT ISSUE AN IMPORT LICENSE PER SE, THE IMPORT FIRM MUST OBTAIN PERMISSION FROM THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE TO IMPORT FIREARMS. THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE HAS STATED THAT THEY ARE WILLING TO PROVIDE A COPY OF THE IMPORTERS' AUTHORIZATION CERTIFICATE TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT, SO THAT THIS DOCUMENT CAN BE USED BY MC AS PART OF OUR US REQUIREMENTS ON US EXPORTERS.

2. THE FOLLOWING ARE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR LOCAL IMPORTERS WHICH MUST BE MET BEFORE PERMISSION IS GRANTED BY THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE:

- A) AN APPLICATION IN TRIPLICATE TO THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE.
- B) CERTIFICATE OF PAYMENT OF FEES ESTABLISHED BY THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.
- C) AN UPDATED CERTIFICATE OF MEMBERSHIP IN ONE OF THE CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE IN ECUADOR.

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D) TWO CERTIFICATES OF CREDIT STANDING.

- E) ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OF THE COMPANY.
- F) POLICE CERTIFICATE.
- G) TWO TESTIMONIALS AS TO THE CHARACTER OF THE HEAD OF THE FIRM.
- H) IDENTITY CARD, TAX PAYMENT CARD.
- I) TWO FRONT VIEW PHOTOGRAPHS.

3. WHOLESALE AND RETAIL GUN DEALERS ARE REQUIRED TO REPORT A SALE OF FIREARMS TO THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE. ADDITIONALLY, THE PURCHASER/OWNER OF A FIREARM MUST OBTAIN A GUN PERMIT FROM THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE.

4. IF A FOREIGN EXPORTER IS SELLING FIREARMS DIRECTLY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF ECUADOR, THERE ARE NO LIMITATIONS ON EITHER THE NUMBER OF WEAPONS SOLD, THE CALIBERS INVOLVED, OR THE AMOUNT OF AMMUNITION. HOWEVER, IF A PRIVATE LOCAL FIRM IS IMPORTING THESE ITEMS, THEN THE FOLLOWING RESTRICTIONS ARE IN EFFECT:

A) CALIBER OF FIREARMS

- 1) CARBINES: 22 CALIBER THROUGH 280 CALIBER
- 2) SEMI-AUTOMATIC (PISTOL) - 22 CALIBER THROUGH 25 CALIBER
- 3) REVOLVERS - 22 CALIBER THROUGH 25 CALIBER
- 4) SHOTGUNS - 10, 12, 16, 20, 28 AND 410 GAUGE

B) QUANTITIES OF FIREARMS THAT MAY BE IMPORTED (YEARLY QUOTA)

- 1) CARBINES - 35
- 2) SEMI-AUTOMATIC (PISTOL) - 25
- 3) REVOLVERS - 25
- 4) SHOTGUNS - 50

C) QUANTITIES OF AMMUNITION THAT MAY BE IMPORTED (YEARLY QUOTA)

- 1) CARBINES - 100,000 ROUNDS
- 2) SEMI- (PISTOL) - 50,000 ROUNDS
- 3) REVOLVERS - 50,000 ROUNDS
- 4) SHOTGUNS - 10,000 ROUNDS FOR EACH GAUGE

BREWSTER

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